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APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 267 asked by Sri A. Ratnam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 13th December 1954, page 26 supra.]

I

G.O. No. 536, Education, dated 5th March 1951.

[Educational Rules—Use of educational buildings for public purposes—Rule 81—Revised.]

The Government direct that the buildings and the grounds of an educational institution shall be used mainly for school functions and for educational and other public purposes, which shall be restricted to functions arranged by a local body or a department of the State Government or the Union Government.

Rule 81 of the Madras Educational Rules will be amended as in the Annexure to these proceedings.

ANNEXURE.

For rule 81 of the Madras Educational Rules, *substitute* the following :—

USE OF BUILDINGS.

81. The premises of an educational institution, or any subsidiary building appertaining to it or a playground or vacant site belonging to the institution, whether adjacent to or removed from it, shall ordinarily be used only for the purposes of functions conducted by such institution. But the chief executive authority of the local body concerned in the case of an institution under the control of a local body, the District Educational Officer in the case of a Government institution other than a Government college, and the Principal in the case of a Government college, is empowered to grant permission, on such conditions as he deems fit to impose, for the use of such building, or ground, or site belonging to the institution for holding public functions arranged by a local body, or a department of the State or the Union Government.

II

G.O. Ms. No. 2386, Education, dated 14th October 1953.

[Religious Instruction—Use of schools—School grounds and buildings for the purpose—Orders passed.]

The Government have had under consideration, for some time past, the question whether grounds and buildings of schools, wholly maintained by the State or by local bodies can be given for use by others for providing religious instruction to such pupils as are desirous of receiving such instruction. After careful consideration, they have decided that the school grounds or buildings

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maintained by the State or local bodies may be given for use by others for purposes of religious or devotional gatherings on the following conditions:—

(1) The use of school buildings and premises for purposes of voluntary religious or devotional gatherings should be permitted only outside school hours;

(2) no discrimination should be made between one religion and another so far as giving the use of the building or premises is concerned;

(3) no permanent structure or image or other symbol of religious import should be installed or left behind in the building or premises;

(4) the use of the premises should not in any way interfere with the regular purpose or activities of the school whether inside or outside school hours; and

(5) permission in all cases and imposing of necessary conditions or modifications should be in the discretion of the headmaster, subject to the control and discretion of the Educational authorities.

Such permission should not be claimed as a matter of right.

2. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to send a draft of suitable amendments to the Madras Educational Rules in the light of the decision in paragraph 1 above.